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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING 1588 West North Temple Salt Lake City, Utah 84116 (801) 533-5771

September 8, 1978

Mr. James M. Rosel, Esq.
Ranchers Exploration and Development Corp.
P.O. Box 6218
1776 Montano Road, N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107

Re: Ammendments to
Mining and Reclamation Plan
ACT/037/022

Dear Mr. Rosel:

The mining and reclamation plan which Ranchers filed with the Division in June 1977 has been deemed to be incomplete in that sufficient information as to the reclamation standards which will be achieved by the company was not included.

As you know, that plan has not yet undergone the approval process and will not until the requirements of Division Rule M-10 are addressed. Rule M-10 sets forth reclamation standards to be achieved by operators. I might also add that a variance to some of the standards is allowed to be issued by the Division based on site specific conditions after a request is made by the operator.

The basis of Rule M-10 is to supply both the operator and the Division a concise idea of what successful reclamation will be on a mining operation. The Rule allows the operator to know exactly what he is committing to in his plan, and allows the Division to know when that reclamation is achieved and subsequently when the reclamation surety would be released.

The Division request for additional information to help complete Ranchers' previously submitted mining and reclamation plan may be satisfied in one of several ways:

1. By filing Division form MR-8, which is a pre-prepared list of the sub-categories of Rule M-10.

2. By submitting in narrative form, a notorized addendum to the mining and reclamation plan which addresses each of the 14 sub-catagories of Rule M-10.

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3. By applying to the Board for a hearing during which Ranchers would attempt to demonstrate why such an addendum would not be needed.

If you have any additional questions on this process of on the general operations of the Division please contact me.

Sincerely,

RONALD W. DANIELS COORDINATOR OF MINED LAND DEVELOPMENT

RWD/sp